9th August 1929]

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao :—" May I know why this long delay has occurred from the 5th February 1929 when the Bill was published in the Gazette up till now ?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar :—" Because the Government have been considering the Bill very carefully."

Introduction of a Bill to amend the Village Courts Act.

* 196 Q.—Mr. J. A. Saldanha : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state when Government will bring a Bill to amend the various defects in the Madras Village Courts Act (I of 1889) that have been brought to their notice ?

A.—An amending Bill in regard to certain points relating to execution of the decrees passed by Village Panchayat Courts which the Government propose to introduce shortly, has been published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*—vide pages 87–89 of Part IV, dated 5th February 1929.

Mr. J. A. Saldanha :—" May I know whether the Government intends to introduce only the Bill as it was published in the Gazette or an amplified Bill ?

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar :—" Only the Bill that has been published in the Gazette."

Mr. J. A. Saldanha :—" May I know whether the Government have not received representations that the Bill requires amplification and that there are several defects in it as it is at present and therefore, whether they are not going to bring in a comprehensive Bill ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar :—" No; they are going to introduce only the particular Bill that has been published."

Mr. P. Anjaneyulu :—" May I know whether it is for this particular purpose that the Government have taken all the time for consideration of the Bill ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar :—" We had to consult the Advocate-General."

Arms and Ammunitions

Issue of gun licences in South Kanara.

* 197 Q.—Mr. K. R. Karant : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) the total number of gun licence applications made by the people of South Kanara, talukwar if possible, in each of the years 1926, 1927 and 1928 ; and

(b) the number of licences actually issued ?